

Pimmit Hills
November 1957

Newsletter

Official Publication of the Pimmit Hills Citizens Association

Officers PHCA 1957-58:

John P. Shacochis, President

Robert Printzenhoff, V. Pres.

Mrs. Quentin T. Wahl, Secretary

Gerald G. Thompson, Treasurer

Mark R. Enger, Sgt.-At-Arms

ASSOCIATION MEETING - The third general meeting in the present session of the Pimmit Hills Citizens Association will be held at 8:00 p.m., WEDNESDAY, NOV. 6, 1957 in the PIMMIT HILLS SCHOOL. Our general meetings are normally held the first Tuesday each month, September through June. Tuesday, November 5, however, is the date for general elections. Therefore, we have postponed our meeting for one day. So don't forget the meeting on Wednesday, but, more importantly, remember to vote in the general election.

OPEN LETTER FROM THE ASSOCIATION'S NEW PRESIDENT

Dear Friends and Neighbors:

In a world concerned with international tensions, atomic developments, earth satellites, and so many other matters of major interest, the problems, the interests, and the accomplishments of a little community like ours go unnoticed by the masses of people outside our boundaries. Yet to us, as residents of this community, our problems are more real than those which confront the great minds who are trying to master the secrets of outer space.

In this first Newsletter after my election as president of your Association, I would like, briefly, to discuss with you matters which are of concern to all of us.

Many of the residents of this community have never attended an Association meeting, and are, therefore, unfamiliar with the aims and goals of this group. The Pimmit Hills Citizens Association is not a governing body; neither does it have any law enforcement powers. It does, however, constitute a central point to which the matters that concern this community can be referred and presented to the proper authorities under a banner that signifies unity of purpose.

We are all familiar with the analogy of "dropping pebbles into the ocean." Without any inference that any of our authorities would ignore your individual problems, it is still a fact that a "bigger splash" can be made if we unite in these matters. The aim of the Association, very briefly stated, is to foster community pride, and thereby make the Pimmit Hills area a better place in which to live.

In the first seven years of Pimmit Hills' existence, many citizens have devoted themselves to this cause. Through their efforts, many projects have been undertaken which have been aimed toward the achievement of that goal. The road has been rough, and, in some instances, the miles of legal red tape which had to be untangled would have forced less devoted citizens to throw in the sponge. To some of those who have been unfamiliar with the roadblocks that had to be cleared, the pursuit of these worthy projects has created a basis for unwarranted criticism of my predecessors and of the many fine people who served with them during their terms of office. I have come into this office when at least one of their major projects is about to be completed. I could not begin to enumerate for you the

individual sacrifices

~~individual sacrifices~~ of both time and effort that have kept this project alive. Thus, I would like you to understand that when the Curbs and Gutters Project is completed, it will be because of the efforts of those who proceeded me in this office and the devoted citizens who worked with them.

What has been achieved represents the efforts of many people, and I would be very unwise if I undertook the duties of this office expecting that I myself could accomplish anything without your cooperation. I am therefore appealing to you to assist me in achieving the many things that have to be done. We have many projects to undertake, and, if we are to see them through to completion, we need many willing hands. If you have a particular problem, complaint, or an idea for improvement, don't just discuss it with your neighbor; bring your neighbor out to the next Association meeting and present your point for consideration by all your friends and neighbors.

On behalf of my associates on the Executive Committee and myself, I urge you to assist us in making this a successful year. The more of our citizens we can get to take an interest in our community's problems, the better will be our ideas for solution.

I would like to meet at least one member of every family in this community before my term of office expires. Won't you come out to our next meeting and afford me that pleasure?

Sincerely,

John P. Shacochis
John P. Shacochis

MEMBERSHIP DRIVE - Early returns on the current membership drive are very encouraging. Since district representatives in the drive are not visiting all residents simultaneously, you may not yet have had the opportunity to purchase a membership. If you have not been contacted personally and desire membership now, you may purchase them either at the general meeting or by telephoning one of the Membership Committee listed below:

Bill Carr, Chairman (JE 4-0095)

Al Eggers (JE 2-0738)

Jack Mohrman (JE 2-0669)

Jim Herby (EL 6-3073)

Ben Goodman (JE 2-7438)

You might take a look at the poster promoting the drive and listing the membership committee which is displayed in the window of Food Town in our shopping center.

SPECIAL MEETING ON CURBS AND GUTTERS PROJECT - A special meeting of the Association was held on October 15 at Firmit Hills School. The meeting concerned proposed street and drainage improvements in Sanitary District 8 (Sections 1 through 5) and was announced by a special edition of the Newsletter to each resident of these sections. Mr. Rasmussen of the County's Department of Public Works presented and discussed the tentative engineering plans for the project, and Mr. Whytock of Firmit Hills presented the tax program designed to repay the cost of the improvements.

The purpose of the

meeting was threefold --to give affected residents information on the tentative construction plans and costs; to permit the County to secure information from residents concerning possible problem areas not accounted for in the tentative plans, so these problems may be considered prior to development and approval of the final plans; and to help residents of these sections preparing to vote in a related bond issue referendum expected in mid-November to better understand the issues involved in the referendum.

Total cost of the project is estimated at \$180,000. Subject to approval by a majority of the residents of affected areas voting in the referendum, the improvements could be financed through the sale of bonds. Repayment of the bonds, plus interest, would require an average tax increase for home-owners in the Sanitary District of about \$1.50 to \$1.65 a month over a 15 year period. Contingent on approval of the bond issue, it was estimated that construction might start by early Summer '56 or, at most, within a year from now.

It was also pointed out that the improvements should definitely enhance the appearance and value of the homes in the community and would benefit all the residents of Pimmit Hills in one way or another. In addition, of course, the project would eliminate many physical problems through improved storm drainage and street widening.

A copy of the tentative construction plan is on display in the lobby of Pimmit Hills School for the benefit of those who were unable to attend the special meeting. If you have any questions or problems not answered by reference to the construction plan, Mr. Rasmussen urges you to make a note of them and refer your note to him in Room 238, County Court House, Fairfax, Virginia or through Mr. Whytock at 417 Lisle Avenue, Pimmit Hills (TW 3-7071).

NEW EDITION OF PIMMIT HILLS DIRECTORY - We are expecting the new Pimmit Hills Directory to be available sometime in December. The new edition will contain an alphabetical listing of residents of the Pimmit Hills area, together with their street addresses and phone numbers. One of the Directory's principal highlights this year is that it will be the only source for a complete listing of the revised residential telephone numbers for this area until the telephone company prints its next directory.

In addition, the Directory will contain an up-to-date street map of the area, a brief history of Pimmit Hills and the Citizens Association, and other civic information of particular interest to residents. It will also include a classified directory of local businesses and stores.

Meg Herby, 2113 Hillside Drive, EL 6-3073, is Directory Editor. Since the residential listings will be made from current records made available by the phone company, Mrs. Herby has asked that you inform her immediately if you--

- a. do not wish to be listed in the Directory, or
- b. do wish to be listed but have no phone.

For the convenience of the community, anyone who has a small office or business may run a one-line classified ad. The rate for a one-line advertisement is \$3.00. Placement of ads may also be made through Mrs. Herby.

FAIRFAX FEDERATION

FEDERATION OF CITIZENS ASSOCIATIONS - The Federation was formally organized in 1949. Its purpose is to sponsor and facilitate united action on matters of common interest to county citizens associations. The Federation consists of a small elected executive committee, a number of specialized committees and its main body of delegates from the citizens associations. Each association delegation has one vote. Its voting is strictly advisory and is limited strictly to the member-associations. Similarly, the Federation does not instruct member-associations as to what they should do.

Since its organization, the Fairfax Federation of Citizens Associations has developed into a potent organ of public opinion. It is useful to the citizens in fulfilling many community needs and in assisting officials in informing them of the sentiment of many residents on matters of common interest. Meetings of the Federation are held in the third Thursday of each month at 8:30 p.m. in Room 10 Elementary School. All county residents are invited to attend. Generally delegates may vote. The next meeting will be devoted to the current problem of school reorganization resulting from proposals to establish a junior high school system in the County.

In the Federation's last meeting a proposal for reorganization of the County's chaotic street naming and numbering methods was presented and will be outlined in our next meeting by Mr. Mandrovsky, a member of the Pimmit Hills Delegation.

The Federation received a resolution by the Bel Air Civic Association supporting an increase in the compensation of members of the State legislature. The Federation has asked us and other member-associations to discuss this question and inform the Federation as to our opinion on the subject. Mr. Mandrovsky will also discuss this matter with us at our general meeting.

FAIRFAX COUNTY DIRECTORY - The Fairfax County Federation of Citizens Associations compiled and published an extremely useful and interesting 44-page directory and map of Fairfax County. The directory--first of its kind to be published in 50 years--is of professional quality, well organized for easy reference, and complete with photographs, charts, and graphs.

Included in it are a stimulating article on the history of the County; an outline of the organization and functions of the County Government; and the names, addresses, and phone numbers of most of our county and some state officials. Also included are lists of all of the schools, churches, citizens associations, and other organizations in Fairfax County, together with the names, addresses, and phone numbers of their principal officers; and several items on the origins, history, and organization of the Federation.

The Fairfax County Map, probably the most comprehensive and accurate available today, includes a convenient locator index to each street, road, school, and point of interest in the County. Together, the directory and map do not duplicate our own Pimmit Hills Directory. The County directory will be on sale at \$1.00 a copy at the Association's meeting on November 6 or may be had by phoning or visiting Mr. James Herby, 2113 Hillside Drive, FL 6-3073.

THE SOCIAL SIDE - For those of you who are interested in organizing dances, bazaars, and stage shows or have interests in other social activities, how's to drop around to the meeting so it can be discussed?